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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Masters, et al.

Examiner:

Serial No.:

Art Unit:

Filing Date:

January 8, 2002

Title:

LASER MACHINING OF ELECTROACTIVE CERAMICS 3-/2-02-

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

## In the specification:

Please amend the above referenced application to read as follows:

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application 09/264,113, filed March 9, 1999, and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,337,465. The entire contents of this applications is incorporated herein by reference.

In the claims:

Please delete claims 1 and 3-16.

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Please charge any additional fees associated with this filing, or apply any credits, to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard H. Bayless, Rog. No. P-51,245

Choate, Hall & Stewart Exchange Place 53 State Street Boston, MA 02109 (617) 248-5000 Dated: January 8, 2002 3352743\_1.DOC